

3. A Credit Card Payment Form including the amount of \$942.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 1-11 and 14-30 before calculating the Filing Fee. A Preliminary Amendment is being filed herewith.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed for this purpose.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

This is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 10/303,024, filed November 25, 2002, which is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/436,500, filed November 9, 1999, now abandoned. This application is related to U.S. Serial No. 10/442,156, filed May 21, 2003.

7. New drawings are enclosed, fourteen (14) sheets, Figs. 1-14.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293
Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174
Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663
Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846
Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is a change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120.

Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

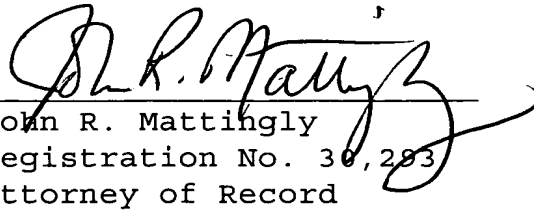
10. Priority of the following Japanese patent applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 10-318694, filed November 10, 1998.

The certified priority document has been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed

in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 10/303,024, as originally filed on November 25, 2002.


John R. Mattingly
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Attorney of Record

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Date: January 22, 2004